



Commission Meeting held at the  
Michigan Center for Truck Safety - Lansing

January 10, 2007  
Approved Minutes

**MTSC Commissioners Present**

Jacqueline El-Sayed  
Fred Bueter  
Michael Prince  
Timothy Kaltenbach  
James Parrinello  
Robert Powers  
James Van Zoeren  
David Zick

**MTSC Commissioners Absent**

Vincent Brennan  
Robert McFarland

**Guests**

Tim Cotter, FMCSA  
Carol Reagan, Dept. of State  
Frank Kelley

**Michigan Center for Truck Safety Staff**

Mike Irwin  
Chris Caswell

**OHSP Staff**

Deborah Sonnenberg  
Kim Kelly  
Steve Schreier

**CALL TO ORDER**

The MTSC meeting was called to order by Dr. El-Sayed, Chair. Roll call of the Commissioners determined a quorum was present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**APPROVAL OF MTSC MINUTES**

- Dr. El-Sayed called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2006, meeting. Mr. Zick stated that since the November 8, 2006, meeting did not have a quorum present, there could not be official minutes. After discussion, it was decided to change the title to "Meeting Notes." A vote was called to accept the "Notes" which was passed.
- A motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2006, meeting was made by Mr. VanZoren and seconded by Capt. Powers. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- MTSC 2006 Annual Report - All commissioners were provided copies of the official FY2006 MTSC Annual Report. Dr. El-Sayed commended the efforts of all involved in the publication and applauded the Commission's accomplishments in 2006.
- MTSC Support of MCD Supplemental Funding - As decided upon at the last meeting, Dr. El-Sayed drafted a letter to the Governor and appropriate legislative chairs to draw their attention to the Motor Carrier Division's FY07 funding shortfall due to the changeover from the SSRS to the UCRS registration system. A copy of the letter was provided to all members. Dr. El-Sayed stated she also conferred with Mr. Bob Morris, chair of Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission, for support of supplemental funding for MCD.

Captain Powers stated that Mary Lannoye of the Department of Management and Budget also submitted correspondence to the legislature in support of supplemental funding for MCD. No action was taken by the legislature before end of year, thus the process must begin again with the new-year legislature.

- Retroactive Carrier Fees - Mr. VanZoren questioned if this year's carrier fees would be collected retroactive once the UCRS is operational. Mr. Tim Cotter of the FMCSA indicated he did not have any information on this issue as yet.

Captain Powers stated that besides MCD, the MPSC receives funding from the carrier fees and that any lapsed monies go to MDOT. The MTSC also receives approximately ½ million in funding from carrier fees. Kim Kelly advised that in figuring the MTSC budget, she is not including any carrier fee monies.

- MACP Traffic Safety Awards – Captain Powers reported that the MTSC has been a sponsor of the MACP Traffic Safety Awards since 2001 in conjunction with the MACP. This award recognizes the efforts enforcement agencies put forth in commercial vehicle safety programs. Of the 15 agencies submitting nominations, 5 of them received \$5,000 in equipment to support their enforcement efforts. The awards were presented at the MACP conference held in Grand Rapids on February 2, 2007.

### ACTION ITEMS

- 2007 MTSC Meeting Calendar Revision – Dr. El-Sayed announced that the MTSC meeting scheduled for March 14, 2007, conflicts with the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit. A motion was made by Captain Powers, and seconded by Mr. Kaltenbach to change the meeting date to March 21, 2007. Motion carried.
- Michigan CMV Safety Belt Action Plan Update – Mr. Steve Schreier provided an overview of the CMV Safety Belt Action Plan stressing its goal to increase CMV seat belt use. Page 12 of the report provides the most important items of future activities to increase CMV safety belt use. Mr. Schreier requested the MTSC's approval of the outlined program. All members approved and endorsed the CMV Safety Belt Action Plan.

Mr. Schreier reported that the FMCSA developed a CD aimed to assist companies, etc., to increase safety belt use within their company. The federal program is entitled "Be ready. Be buckled," which addresses the myths of seat belt use and provides a policy companies may follow.

Mike Prince questioned the decision of the FMCSA to develop a separate seat belt campaign for CMV's rather than including them in the "Click it or Ticket" campaign for passenger vehicles. Mr. Cotter of FMCSA responded that he was not knowledgeable of the decision making process. Mr. Prince inquired if there was a federal communication campaign for CMV safety belt other than the CD that was produced. Mike Irwin stated that through the Michigan Center for Truck Safety's "Are You Truck Smart?" program they hope to promote CMV safety belt use. Mr. Prince stressed that aggressive enforcement must also have an aggressive communication campaign to be successful. Mr. Cotter stated that the FMCSA was mainly promoting CMV safety belt awareness due to limited funding and requested the MTSC's help to obtain a grant to actively communicate and promote this issue. Mr. Prince shared what he has heard other states have done.

- Request for Supplemental Funding for the Motor Carrier Division – Captain Powers reported that because of recent changes in federal law, Michigan can no longer collect operating authority fees from interstate motor carriers, formerly SSRS fees. The federal program to replace the SSRS fees will not be operational until FY08, at the earliest. One of the funding sources for the Motor Carrier Division is/was the SSRS fees. Failure to receive those fees has created a temporary, one-time deficit in the Motor Carrier Division FY-07 budget, which if not resolved, will result in the layoff of 30 Motor Carrier officers.

Captain Powers requests that the MCD grant be amended in two ways:

- 1) The monies utilized for weekend and holiday overtime operations be converted to fund Motor Carrier officers on regular time. This will help minimize the budget deficit impact.
- 2) Additional funding of \$523,592 be allocated through the Truck Safety Grant to fund 5.24 Motor Carrier Division FTEs.

Mr. McFarland, via speaker phone, expressed his concern that if the MTSC provided MCD funding, that the MTSC would most likely not receive reimbursement from the UCRS program. He also expressed that MTSC's current support is for STET operations and that the MTSC not violate that funding statute. Captain Powers stated that any additional, or shift of funding, would be used for STET operations not for general funding of the MCD. Captain Powers also assured the members that in anticipation of the funding loss, he has taken action to lessen the impact of layoffs, etc., by cutting back on travel, overtime, spending, etc.

Kim Kelly developed spending projections with and without additional grant monies to MCD. Ms. Kelly reported that if UCRS funding doesn't come through, the MTSC could itself be looking at cutbacks affecting the Michigan Center for Truck Safety.

Mr. Parrinello motioned this issue be tabled until Mr. McFarland and Mr. Brennan are in attendance. Mr. VanZoeren seconded the motion stating members need to consider further the impact of a decision. Captain Powers explained that the longer MCD is without additional funding, the greater the impact will be on motor carrier enforcement efforts.

A Roll Call vote was taken to table the issue. Of the eight members present, seven approved and one, Captain Powers, abstained. Motion to table the issue carried.

## REPORTS

- Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS) Project Director's Report – Mike Irwin reported that the MCTS is seeking safety partners with secured sites for simulator training locations, qualified drivers, instructors, and steering committee members.

The Fifth Annual Michigan Truck Exposition & Safety Symposium will be held February 20-21, 2007, at the Sheraton Hotel in Lansing. The president of CVSA is the guest speaker. Attendees will have the opportunity to look up their company's SafeStat ratings before attending FMCSA sessions about SafeStat. The Simulator will also be on display.

The Center is searching for an outside source to update the MCTS web site. One desire is to make the site interactive to accommodate the scheduling of the simulator, etc.

- OHSP Financial Report – Kim Kelly provided everyone with a final FY06 financial statement in addition to a current financial statement. The current financial statement does not depict giving additional funding to MCD or receiving UCRS monies. Ms. Kelly reported that at this point in year there is not much spending going on but that it will catch up.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Commissioner Meeting Attendance – Dr. El-Sayed reiterated that at the November 8, 2006, meeting a quorum was not present. She stressed the importance of attendance to enable the group to do its mandated work. A meeting attendance record for 2005 and 2006 was shared.

## Adjournment

Mr. Parrinello motioned the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Kaltenbach. Motion to adjourn carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

**Next meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on March 21, 2006,  
at the Michigan Center for Truck Safety office, 1131 Centennial Way in Lansing.**